

Remarks

Reconsideration of this application and entry of the present amendments are requested.

In view of the amendments provided herein, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are in form for allowance. Allowed claim 60 defines a polypeptide sequence that corresponds exactly to SEQ ID NO:6 in Claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,001,963. Moreover, allowed claim 61 corresponds substantially to SEQ ID NOS:4, 9, and 12 found in Claims 1 and 2 of said U.S. Patent No. 6,001,963. Pursuant to Applicants Request for Declaration of Interference Pursuant to Rule 607, filed on December 12, 2000, Applicants respectfully request that an Interference be declared between the present application and said U.S. Patent No. 6,001,963.

Claims 8, 14, 30, 34, 60 and 61 are pending in the application. The allowance of these claims is noted with appreciation.

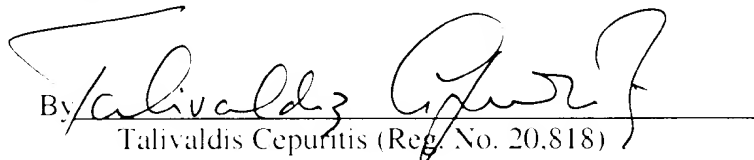
Claim 62 is canceled without prejudice in order to expedite the prosecution of this application. Cancellation of claim 62 is believed to place this application in condition for allowance.

Approval of the proposed drawing correction filed on August 6, 2002 is noted. New corrected drawings have been filed on April 21, 2003.

Early allowance of this application is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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